

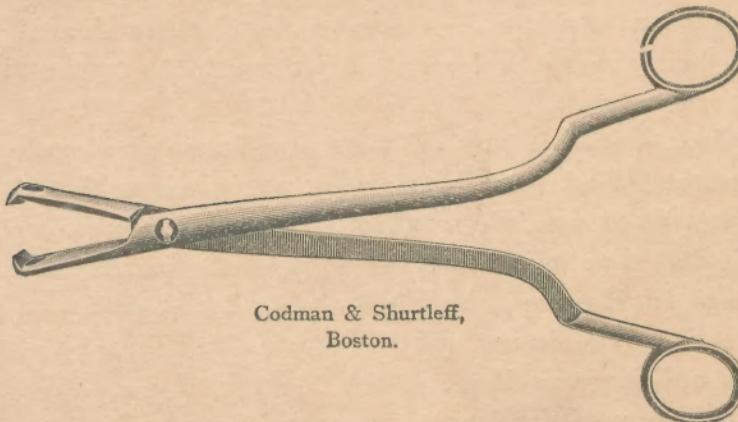
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[Reprinted from the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal
of December 9, 1897.]

A UTERINE CUTTING FORCEPS.¹

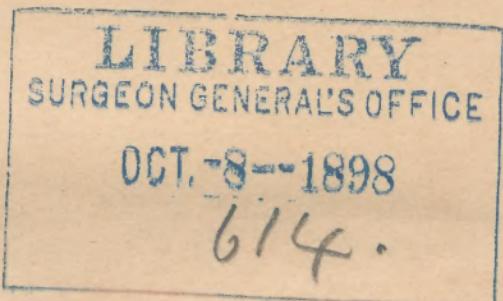
BY W. L. BURRAGE, M.D.

THE instrument figured in the accompanying cut is intended for the removal of polypi situated at the fundus uteri, and for smoothing rough surfaces in the same situation left after the morcellation of submucous



fibroids. It was designed to fill a place that is not taken by the long uterine scissors, the vulsellum forceps, the placenta forceps, the long hemostatic forceps with serrated blades or the Emmet curette for-

¹ Shown before the Obstetrical Society of Boston, November 16, 1897.



ceps or the curette. It is a powerful forceps made after the fashion of the long uterine scissors and the post-nasal cutting forceps, having the cutting blades at the end only. These blades are three-eighths of an inch wide, their corners being ground off so as to protect the guiding finger of the operator. They will cut only on a convex surface and therefore there is no danger of perforating the uterus. A fenestrum in each blade behind the cutting surface prevents the forceps from becoming clogged by the pieces of tissue as they are removed. The extreme length of the instrument is nine and a quarter inches, and there is a French lock two inches from the cutting edges. It is slender enough to work well through a moderately dilated cervix and yet it will cut cleanly through the toughest fibrous tissue.

In operation it bites off the tissue, leaving a smooth surface behind; and, by virtue of the pinching that it gives the tissues, it lessens the tendency to hemorrhage. Used as a vulsellum in larger growths, especially the more friable ones, the blades being broad, sink into the tissue and do not tear through as do the teeth of the ordinary vulsellum.

I have used the forceps on several cases and its successful work has more than equalled my expectations.

The instrument was made for me by Codman & Shurtleff, of Boston.

